



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"
Russ Guiney, Director

January 17, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR THE 2011
NATURAL LAND FOR TRAILS COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS GRANT PROGRAM AVAILABLE
TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO FUND THE DON WALLACE TRAIL PROJECT
(THIRD DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommendations will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, in the amount of \$500,000, to fund the Don Wallace Trail Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the submittal of the grant application is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b) (5) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.
2. Adopt the attached Resolution approving the submission of a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, in the amount of \$500,000, to fund the Don Wallace Trail Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to accept the funds, conduct all negotiations, and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, the project agreement, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommendations will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) for 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds. The funds are available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition). The Department is requesting \$500,000 to fund the Don Wallace Trail Project.

The Don Wallace Trail Project is located in the unincorporated area of Calabasas within the Santa Monica Mountains. The multi-use trail will be a segment of the Las Virgenes Trail that goes under the Agoura Road Bridge and 101 Freeway Bridge over the Las Virgenes Creek. Completion of this part of the Las Virgenes Trail will allow recreational users to hike/ride from the beach to China Flat in the Simi Hills, becoming the first mountain trail to connect to the trail system in the City of Malibu and the Rancho Simi Parks and Recreation District.

The scope of work will consist of, but not limited to, planning, design, obtaining entitlements and/or securing agreements; development of the multi-use trail; installation of fencing, gates, ramps, signage, lighting, and supporting or retaining walls; and planting, landscaping and re-vegetation.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by enhancing safe and accessible recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed total project cost is \$800,000. The Department was previously allocated \$300,000 in County Specified Excess Funds from the Third Supervisorial District. This funding is appropriated in Fiscal Year 2011-12 Capital Project Budget to the Don Wallace Trail project (C.P. 69693).

The Department is requesting \$500,000 from the 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District to supplement the Don Wallace Trail Project.

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

Based on the recommended actions, the Department would incur additional operating costs should the project reach completion. The Department anticipates one-time costs of approximately \$2,000 for signage and maintenance equipment; and ongoing costs of approximately \$2,000 for maintenance supplies and gear. The Department will work with the Chief Executive Office to confirm the appropriate level of funding and submit a New Facilities request in the same fiscal year in which the project completes.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds Program provides \$2,200,000 for competitive natural land for trails grants in the Santa Monica Mountains. Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate a viable trails proposal and resource protection.

The District requires that the grantee submits an adopted resolution by its governing body authorizing the filing of an application at a duly noticed public meeting. The resolution for the Don Wallace Trail Project is attached.

Pursuant to Section 14 of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, all funds of the District allocated to projects which include tasks that can be performed by youth, including but not limited to the rehabilitation, restoration and/or development of beach, park, recreation, open space and/or natural lands, and recreation and community facilities, shall be used to the maximum extent feasible to employ at-risk youth from the community in which the particular project is being carried out. A Youth Employment Plan will be submitted with the grant application.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The Department has met this requirement.

County Counsel has approved this Board Letter and attached resolution as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the Project and will prepare the appropriate CEQA documentation to be presented to your Board at a later date.

The proposed administrative action (submittal of the grant application) is not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b) (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other current projects or services in the Santa Monica Mountains.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

1/17/2012

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", with a stylized, flowing script.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:MY:FP

BR:br

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS TO
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT
FOR THE 2011 NATURAL LAND FOR TRAILS COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS
GRANT PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT FOR
THE DON WALLACE TRAIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Los Angeles on November 3, 1992, and on November 5, 1996, enacted Los Angeles County Proposition A, Safe Neighborhood Parks, Gang Prevention, Tree-Planting, Senior and Youth Recreation, Beach and Wildlife Protection (Propositions), which among other uses, provides funds to public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the County for the purpose of acquiring and/or development of facilities and open space for public recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Propositions also created the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) to administer said funds; and

WHEREAS, the District has set forth the necessary procedures governing applications for grant funds under the Propositions; and

WHEREAS, the District's procedures require the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to certify, by Resolution, the approval of the application before submission of said application to the District; and

WHEREAS, said application contains assurances that the Department must comply with; and

WHEREAS, the Department will enter into an Agreement with the District to provide funds for the Don Wallace Trail Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY:**

1. Approves the submission of an application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for \$500,000 in Third Supervisorial District 2011 Natural Land for Trails Competitive Excess Funds Grant Program for the above project; and

2. Certifies that the Department understands the assurances and certification in the application form; and

3. Certifies that the Department has, or will have, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity; and

4. Appoints the Director of the Department, or his designee, to conduct all negotiations, and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, the application, agreement, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the _____ day of _____, 2012, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

SACHI A. HAMAI, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

By _____

Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
ANDREA S. ORDIN
County Counsel

By Christina A. Salseda
CHRISTINA A. SALSEDA
Principal Deputy County Counsel